

921 South Wilson Blvd.
Nashville, Tennessee 37236

0559 '00 MAY 15 19:46

April 13, 2000

Dr. Janet Henney, M.D., Commissioner, FDA
5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney:

I am writing to urge that you reject the proposed change in the warning label on consumer products that contain Olestra. I had a very bad experience with this product after unwittingly eating a small bag of potato chips. I suffered an afternoon and evening of debilitating abdominal cramps and diarrhea. I am convinced that nothing else was responsible for my reaction since I had no symptoms of an intestinal flu (headache, fever, weakness) nor were any of the other foods I had consumed that day likely to cause food poisoning.

Removing the warning label is a real step backwards. Rather than capitulate to the self-interested manufacturer, the FDA should remember that its mission is to protect public health. I urge that you strengthen consumer awareness of the hazards of consuming this product. The warning should state that symptoms can be severe, and it should be prominently and unmistakably displayed on packaging and in all forms of advertising.

Sincerely,



Thomas Gregor

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Janet Henney, M.D.
Commissioner, FDA
5600 Fiskers Lane
Rockville, Md. 20857

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Please continue to keep the label on Olestra products. I believe these labels should be larger and bolder. They should also be more prominent and explicit in their wording.

I understand there is some thought being given to eliminating the labels altogether. This would be a huge mistake. I'm extremely sensitive to this chemical, and I understand that 1000's of other people are also.

Please do not put us through such agony by allowing us to eat products that have Olestra in them, but we are unaware of it because there is no label.

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